## APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR ABLATING TISSUE

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention provides apparatus and methods for ablating tissue and is particularly useful for creating lesions in the heart wall for the treatment of atrial fibrillation. The apparatus has a suction well which is adhered to the tissue to be ablated. The ablating element is surrounded by the suction well. A fluid is delivered to the ablating element to conduct RF energy to the tissue and/or to cool the tissue.

The device is preferably formed with a number of cells with each cell having a suction well and at least one ablating element. The device also preferably has a locking mechanism for locking one part of the device to another part of the device to form a closed loop for ablating around structures such as the pulmonary veins.